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TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: Media Reaction: Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba's visit to U.S

1. "Bush pledges military, economic aid to Nepal; Deuba jubilant"

Article, "Kathmandu Post" (E/D, 5/9): "The United States has pledged vital support to make Nepal's democracy more vibrant with special emphasis on effective anti terrorist measures, peace and security of the Himalayan Kingdom. The outcome of...the meeting Prime Minister Deuba had with President Bush...was more or less on the expected line and America's long term interest to be a partner in Nepal's peace progress and democratic exercise more visible than ever before..."

2. "U.S. extends full support"

Editorial, "Space Time Today" (E/D, 5/9): "There seems to have been no specific areas in which assurance of U.S. assistance for resolving the insurgency was made during the meeting... Another noteworthy feature of Deuba's talks with Bush is that little emphasis has been placed on increasing American development assistance to Nepal... Prime Minister Deuba...will also meet the British Prime Minister. Deuba is undertaking his visits abroad with the express purpose of seeking further foreign military assistance at a time when the general public opinion and the views of responsible political forces, including sections of the ruling party, are inclining towards resolving the insurgency issue through the negotiating table. Deuba, nevertheless, is apparently acting oblivious to such voices..."

3. "Fruitful Talks"

Editorial, "Rising Nepal" (E/D, 5/9): "...The U.S. has been a great friend of Nepal. The U.S. government's willingness to support Nepal in its fight against Maoist terrorists is very significant... The U.S. government's recent announcement of an assistance package to Nepal further underlined the importance it attaches to consolidating Nepal's multi-party democracy and development activities... President Bush's assurance of continued support to Nepal's fight against the terrorism and strengthening and safeguarding democracy indicates that the Prime Minister's U.S. visit is absolutely successful..."

4. "Deuba-Bush Talks"

Editorial, "Gorkhapatra" (V/D, 5/9): "...America appears to be committed to helping Nepal to fight against terrorism... The talks have satisfied the expectations of Nepalis who have want to protect democracy and human rights in their country..."

5. "Prime Minister's America visit"

Article, "Jwala" (Pro-Maoist, V/W, 5/9): Deuba's America visit, at a time when leaders and party workers of the Nepali Congress and the major opposition parties, human rights organizations and civic society have called for dialogue to resolve the Maoist problem, has not pleased anyone... Nepal is a sovereign country. Foreigners are looking for every excuse to introduce their military bases. If foreigners get an opportunity to enter Nepal in the name of controlling terrorism, Nepal's sovereignty might be put in danger... America killed thousands of Afghans in a futile attempt to find Osama bin Laden. It cannot be denied that Nepal will encounter a similar situation if America begins to hunt Prachanda and Baburam [Top Maoist leaders]."

6. "Deuba's U.S. visit"

Op-ed, "Himalayan Times" (E/D, 5/9): "...This [Deuba-Bush meeting] is indicative of the importance attached by the U.S. to Nepal in its campaign to fight terrorism. The United States has stated that it is not seeking permanent military bases in South Asia. Although the final report of the American needs assessment mission to Nepal, which will determine the kind of military aid to Nepal, will not be known for some time, it is unlikely that American bases will be established in Nepal or American soldiers will fight the war against the Maoists. The most likely assistance will be in the form of equipment and training... Both India and China will be watching the American military aid to Nepal with keen interest"

7. "Achievements should not be undermined by difference"

Article, People's Reveiw (E/W, 5/9): "...The meting with President Bush is a major feather in the cap of beleaguered Prime Minister Deuba, who is facing opposition from not only the opposition parties back home, but from some of his own partymen, including former Prime Minister and President of the Nepali

Congress Party Girija Prasad Koirala... With help from the USA and other Western countries, the army could probably quell the terrorism problem faster..."

18. "Questions raised by Prime Minister's U.S. visit"

Op-ed, "Spacetime Dainik" (V/D, 5/8): "Declaring emergency in the country, Prime Minister Deuba has been in various cities of the U.S. for over a week for no reason. The Deubas' visit rather looks like those of the honeymooners. This has shown how irresponsible and thoughtless the Prime Minister is to the country and people. The country has suffered an unbelievable loss over the last ten months of Deuba's governance..."

19. "Prime Minister's America visit"

Op-ed by Nepal's former Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyay, "Rajdhani" (V/D, 5/8): "...The Prime Minister's America visit will definitely be successful in terms of controlling the terrorist activities [in Nepal]. In the backdrop of the worldwide campaign against terrorism, the Nepal-U.S. relationship has taken a new course. Secretary Powell's visit to Nepal further heightened the relationship. It can be hoped that Prime Minister Deuba's America visit will further strengthen the Nepal-U.S. relationship and improve mutual understanding..."

10. "Successful Meeting"

Editorial, "Himalaya Times" (V/D, 5/8): "The meeting of Prime Minister Deuba with President Bush, the leader of the most prosperous country in the world, is a matter of excitement and satisfaction. America has helped Nepal in many areas, including education, agriculture and technology... Nepal and America both are fighting terrorism now. We are in a serious need of foreign economic assistance as the Maoist attacks have destroyed many of our physical infrastructures. The Deuba visit is expected to make necessary endeavors in this regard..."

11. "Bush-Deuba talks"

Article, RSS (National News Agency) news carried by several of Nepal's prominent newspapers: "Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba has expressed gratitude for the clear expression of support extended by the United States of America to Nepal as Nepal makes determined efforts to combat terror..."

MALINOWSKI